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**PART D**  
**FIRE PROTECTION AND PREVENTION**

**WAC 296-155-250 Definitions applicable to this part.**

- (1) **“Approved”** for the purpose of this part, means equipment that has been listed or approved by a nationally recognized testing laboratory such as Factory Mutual Engineering Corp., or Underwriters' Laboratories, Inc., federal agencies such as United States Mine Safety and Health Administration or United States Coast Guard, which issue approvals for such equipment, or the department of labor and industries.
- (2) **“Closed container”** means a container so sealed by means of a lid or other device that neither liquid nor vapor will escape from it at ordinary temperatures.
- (3) **“Combustible liquid”** means any liquid having a flashpoint at or above 100°F (37.8°C). Combustible liquids shall be divided into two classes as follows:
  - (a) **“Class II liquids”** shall include those with flashpoints at or above 100°F (37.8°C) and below 140°F (60°C), except any mixture having components with flashpoints of 200°F (93.3°C) or higher, the volume of which make up 99 percent or more of the total volume of the mixture.
  - (b) **“Class III liquids”** shall include those with flashpoints at or above 140°F (60°C). Class III liquids are subdivided into two subclasses:
    - (i) **“Class IIIA liquids”** shall include those with flashpoints at or above 140°F (60°C) and below 200°F (93.3°C), except any mixture having components with flashpoints of 200°F (93.3°C), or higher, the total volume of which make up 99 percent or more of the total volume of the mixture.
    - (ii) **“Class IIIB liquids”** shall include those with flashpoints at or above 200°F (93.3°C). This section does not cover Class IIIB liquids. Where the term “Class III liquids” is used in this section, it shall mean only Class IIIA liquids.
  - (c) When a combustible liquid is heated for use to within 30°F (16.7°C) of its flashpoint, it shall be handled in accordance with the requirements for the next lower class of liquids.
- (4) **“Combustion”** means any chemical process that involves oxidation sufficient to produce light or heat.
- (5) **“Fire brigade”** means an organized group of employees that are knowledgeable, trained, and skilled in the safe evacuation of employees during emergency situations and in assisting in fire fighting operations.
- (6) **“Fire resistance”** means so resistant to fire that, for specified time and under conditions of a standard heat intensity, it will not fail structurally and will not permit the side away from the fire to become hotter than a specified temperature. For purposes of this part, fire resistance shall be determined by the Standard Methods of Fire Tests of Building Construction and Materials, NFPA 251-72.
- (7) **“Flammable”** means capable of being easily ignited, burning intensely or having a rapid rate of flame spread.

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- (8) **“Flammable liquid”** means any liquid having a flashpoint below 100°F (37.8°C), except any mixture having components with flashpoints of 100°F (37.8°C) or higher, the total of which make up 99 percent or more of the total volume of the mixture. Flammable liquids shall be known as Class I liquids. Class I liquids are divided into three classes as follows:
- (a) Class IA shall include liquids having flashpoints below 73°F (22.8°C) and having a boiling point below 100°F (37.8°C).
  - (b) Class IB shall include liquids having flashpoints below 73°F (22.8°C) and having a boiling point at or above 100°F (37.8°C).
  - (c) Class IC shall include liquids having flashpoints at or above 73°F (22.8°C) and below 100°F (37.8°C).
- (9) **“Flashpoint”** means the minimum temperature at which a liquid gives off vapor within a test vessel in sufficient concentration to form an ignitable mixture with air near the surface of the liquid, and shall be determined as follows:
- (a) For a liquid which has a viscosity of less than 45 SUS at 100°F (37.8°C), does not contain suspended solids, and does not have a tendency to form a surface film while under test, the procedure specified in the Standard Method of Test for Flashpoint by Tag Closed Tester (ASTM D-56-70) shall be used.
  - (b) For a liquid which has a viscosity of 45 SUS or more at 100°F (37.8°C), or contains suspended solids, or has a tendency to form a surface film while under test, the Standard Method of Test for Flashpoint by Pensky-Martens Closed Tester (ASTM D-93-71) shall be used, except that the methods specified in Note 1 to section 1.1 of ASTM D-93-71 may be used for the respective materials specified in the note.
- (10) **“Liquified petroleum gases” “LPG” and “LP Gas”** mean and include any material which is composed predominantly of any of the following hydrocarbons, or mixtures of them, such as propane, propylene, butane (normal butane or isobutane), and butylenes.
- (11) **“Portable tank”** means a closed container having a liquid capacity more than 60 U.S. gallons, and not intended for fixed installation.
- (12) **“Safety can”** means an approved closed container, of not more than 5 gallons capacity, having a spring-closing lid and spout cover and so designed that it will safely relieve internal pressure when subjected to fire exposure.
- (13) **“Salamander”** means a portable heating device, solid or liquid fueled, which is not vented to the outdoor atmosphere.
- (14) **“Vapor pressure”** means the pressure, measured in pounds per square inch (absolute), exerted by a volatile liquid as determined by the “Standard Method of Test for Vapor Pressure of Petroleum Products (Reid Method),” (ASTM D-323-68).

[Statutory Authority: RCW 49.17.040 and 49.17.050. 86-03-074 (Order 86-14), § 296-155-250, filed 1/21/86; Order 74-26, § 296-155-250, filed 5/7/74, effective 6/6/74.]

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**WAC 296-155-260 Fire protection.**

- (1) General requirements.
    - (a) The employer shall be responsible for development of a fire protection program to be followed throughout all phases of construction and demolition work, and the employer shall provide for fire fighting equipment as specified in this part. As fire hazards occur, there shall be no delay in providing necessary equipment.
    - (b) Access to all available fire fighting equipment shall be maintained at all times.
    - (c) All fire fighting equipment, provided by the employer, shall be conspicuously located.
    - (d) All fire fighting equipment shall be periodically inspected by a competent person, and maintained in operating condition. Defective equipment shall be immediately replaced.
    - (e) As warranted by the project, the employer shall provide a trained and equipped fire fighting organization (fire brigade) to assure adequate protection to life.
  - (2) Water supply.
    - (a) A temporary or permanent water supply, of sufficient volume, duration, and pressure, required to properly operate fire fighting equipment shall be made available as soon as combustible materials accumulate.
    - (b) Where underground water mains are to be provided, they shall be installed, completed, and made available for use as soon as practicable.
  - (3) Portable fire fighting equipment.
    - (a) A fire extinguisher, rated not less than 2A, shall be provided for each 3,000 square feet of a combustible building area, or major fraction thereof. Travel distance from any point of the protected area to the nearest fire extinguisher shall not exceed a horizontal distance of 100 feet.
- Note: One 55-gallon open drum of water with two fire pails may be substituted for a fire extinguisher having a 2A rating.*
- (b) A 1/2-inch diameter garden-type hose line, not to exceed 100 feet in length and equipped with a nozzle, may be substituted for a 2A-rated fire extinguisher, provided it is capable of discharging a minimum of 5 gallons per minute with a minimum hose stream range of 30 feet horizontally. The garden-type hose lines shall be mounted on conventional racks or reels. The number and location of hose racks or reels shall be such that at least one hose stream can be applied to all points in the area.
  - (c) One or more fire extinguishers, rated not less than 2A, shall be provided on each floor. In multistory buildings, where combustibles are present, at least one fire extinguisher shall be located adjacent to a stairway.
  - (d) Extinguishers and water drums, subject to freezing, shall be protected from freezing.
  - (e) A fire extinguisher, rated not less than 10B, shall be provided within 50 feet of wherever more than 5 gallons of flammable or combustible liquids or 5 pounds of flammable gas are being used on the jobsite. This requirement does not apply to the integral fuel tanks of motor vehicles.



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- (ii) During demolition or alterations, existing automatic sprinkler installations shall be retained in service as long as reasonable. The operation of sprinkler control valves shall be permitted only by properly authorized persons.

*Note: Modification of sprinkler systems to permit alterations or additional demolition should be expedited so that the automatic protection may be returned to service as quickly as possible. Sprinkler control valves shall be checked daily at close of work to ascertain that the protection is in service.*

- (b) Standpipes. In all structures in which standpipes are required, or where standpipes exist in structures being altered, they shall be brought up as soon as applicable laws permit, and shall be maintained as construction progresses in such a manner that they are always ready for fire protection use. The standpipes shall be provided with Siamese fire department connections on the outside of the structure, at the street level, which shall be conspicuously marked. There shall be at least one standard hose outlet at each floor.
- (5) Fire alarm devices.
- (a) An alarm system, e.g., telephone system, siren, etc., shall be established by the employer whereby employees on the site and the local fire department can be alerted for an emergency.
  - (b) The alarm code and reporting instructions shall be conspicuously posted at phones and at employee entrances.
- (6) Fire cutoffs.
- (a) Fire walls and exit stairways, required for the completed buildings, shall be given construction priority. Fire doors, with automatic closing devices, shall be hung on openings as soon as practical.
  - (b) Fire cutoffs shall be retained in buildings undergoing alterations or demolition until operations necessitate their removal.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 49.17.010, .040, .050. 01-11-038 (Order 99-36), § 296-155-260, filed 05/09/01, effective 09/01/01. Statutory Authority: Chapter 49.17 RCW. 94-15-096 (Order 94-07), § 296-155-260, filed 7/20/94, effective 9/20/94. Statutory Authority: RCW 49.17.040 and 49.17.050. 86-03-074 (Order 86-14), § 296-155-260, filed 1/21/86; Order 76-6, § 296-155-260, filed 3/1/76; Order 74-26, § 296-155-260, filed 5/7/74, effective 6/6/74.]

**WAC 296-155-265 Fire prevention.**

- (1) Ignition hazards.
- (a) Electrical wiring and equipment for light, heat, or power purposes shall be installed in compliance with the requirements of Part I of this standard.
  - (b) Internal combustion engine powered equipment shall be so located that exhausts are well away from combustible materials. When exhausts are piped to outside the building under construction, a clearance of at least 6 inches shall be maintained between such piping and combustible material.
  - (c) Smoking shall be prohibited at or in the vicinity of operations which constitute a fire hazard, and shall be conspicuously posted: "No smoking or open flame."
  - (d) Portable battery powered lighting equipment, used in connection with the storage, handling, or use of flammable gases or liquids, shall be of the type approved for the hazardous locations.

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**WAC 296-155-265 (Cont.)**

- (e) The nozzle of air, inert gas, and steam lines or hoses, when used in the cleaning or ventilation of tanks and vessels that contain hazardous concentrations of flammable gases or vapors, shall be bonded to the tank or vessel shell. Bonding devices shall not be attached or detached in hazardous concentrations of flammable gases or vapors.
  - (f) Workers shall not take open lights or open flames near or in an open sewer manhole, gas main, conduit or other similar place until the absence of explosive or harmful gases has been assured.  
  
Open lights or flames shall not be carried into areas and enclosures where flammable vapors or exposed low flash point solvents exist. Only approved and suitable protected lights shall be used.
- (2) Temporary buildings.
- (a) No temporary building shall be erected where it will adversely affect any means of exit.
  - (b) Temporary buildings, when located within another building or structure, shall be of either noncombustible construction or of combustible construction having a fire resistance of not less than 1 hour.
  - (c) Temporary buildings, located other than inside another building and not used for the storage, handling, or use of flammable or combustible liquids, flammable gases, explosives, or blasting agents, or similar hazardous occupancies, shall be located at a distance of not less than 10 feet from another building or structure. Groups of temporary buildings, not exceeding 2,000 square feet in aggregate, shall, for the purpose of this part, be considered a single temporary building.
- (3) Open yard storage.
- (a) Combustible materials shall be piled with due regard to the stability of piles and in no case higher than 20 feet.
  - (b) Driveways between and around combustible storage piles shall be at least 15 feet wide and maintained free from accumulation of rubbish, equipment, or other articles or materials. Driveways shall be so spaced that a maximum grid system unit of 50 feet by 150 feet is produced.
  - (c) The entire storage site shall be kept free from accumulation of unnecessary combustible materials. Weeds and grass shall be kept down and a regular procedure provided for the periodic cleanup of the entire area.
  - (d) When there is a danger of an underground fire, that land shall not be used for combustible or flammable storage.
  - (e) Method of piling shall be solid wherever possible and in orderly and regular piles. No combustible material shall be stored outdoors within 10 feet of a building or structure.
  - (f) Portable fire extinguishing equipment, suitable for the fire hazard involved, shall be provided at convenient, conspicuously accessible locations in the yard area. Portable fire extinguishers, rated not less than 2A, shall be placed so that maximum travel distance to the nearest unit shall not exceed 100 feet.

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**WAC 296-155-265 (Cont.)**

- (4) Indoor storage.
  - (a) Storage shall not obstruct, or adversely affect, means of exit.
  - (b) All materials shall be stored, handled, and piled with due regard to their fire characteristics.
  - (c) Noncompatible materials, which may create a fire hazard, shall be segregated by a barrier having a fire resistance of at least 1 hour.
  - (d) Material shall be piled to minimize the spread of fire internally and to permit convenient access for firefighting. Stable piling shall be maintained at all times. Aisle space shall be maintained to safely accommodate the widest vehicle that may be used within the building for fire-fighting purposes.
  - (e) Clearance of at least 36 inches shall be maintained between the top level of the stored material and the sprinkler deflectors.
  - (f) Clearance shall be maintained around lights and heating units to prevent ignition of combustible materials.
  - (g) A clearance of 24 inches shall be maintained around the path of travel of fire doors unless a barricade is provided, in which case no clearance is needed. Material shall not be stored within 36 inches of a fire door opening.

[Statutory Authority: Chapter 49.17 RCW. 88-23-054 (Order 88-25), § 296-155-265, filed 11/14/88; Order 74-26, § 296-155-265, filed 5/7/74, effective 6/6/74.]

**WAC 296-155-270 Flammable and combustible liquids.**

- (1) General requirements.
  - (a) Only approved containers and portable tanks shall be used for storage and handling of flammable and combustible liquids. Approved metal safety cans, or department of transportation approved containers shall be used for the handling and use of flammable liquids in quantities five gallons or less, except that this shall not apply to those flammable liquid materials which are highly viscous (extremely hard to pour), which may be used and handled in original shipping containers. For quantities of one gallon or less, only the original container may be used for storage, use, and handling of flammable liquids.
  - (b) Flammable or combustible liquids shall not be stored in areas used for exits, stairways, or normally used for the safe passage of people.
  - (c) Flammable and combustible liquid containers shall be legibly marked to indicate their contents. Each storage container for flammable or combustible liquids, with a capacity of 50 gallons or more, shall have the contents of the container identified by a sign of clearly visible contrasting colors with letters at least 3 inches high, painted on the container at the discharge valve and at the fill point.
  - (d) Gasoline shall not be used as a solvent or a cleaning agent.
- (2) Indoor storage of flammable and combustible liquids.

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**WAC 296-155-270 (Cont.)**

- (a) No more than 25 gallons of flammable or combustible liquids shall be stored in a room outside of an approved storage cabinet. For storage of liquid petroleum gas, see WAC 296-155-275.
- (b) Quantities of flammable and combustible liquid in excess of 25 gallons shall be stored in an acceptable or approved cabinet meeting the following requirements:
  - (i) Acceptable wooden storage cabinets shall be constructed in the following manner, or equivalent: The bottom, sides, and top shall be constructed of an exterior grade of plywood at least 1 inch in thickness, which shall not break down or delaminate under standard fire test conditions. All joints shall be rabbeted and shall be fastened in two directions with flathead wood screws, when more than one door is used, there shall be a rabbeted overlap of not less than 1 inch. Steel hinges shall be mounted in such a manner as to not lose their holding capacity due to loosening or burning out of the screws when subjected to fire. Such cabinets shall be painted inside and out with fire retardant paint.
  - (ii) Approved metal storage cabinets will be acceptable.
  - (iii) Cabinets shall be labeled in conspicuous lettering, "Flammable-Keep fire away."
- (c) Not more than 60 gallons of flammable or 120 gallons of combustible liquids shall be stored in any one storage cabinet. Not more than three such cabinets may be located in a single storage area. Quantities in excess of this shall be stored in an inside storage room.
- (d)
  - (i) Inside storage room shall be constructed to meet the required fire-resistive rating for their use. Such construction shall comply with the test specifications set forth in Standard Methods of Fire Test of Building Construction and Material, NFPA 251-1972.
  - (ii) Where an automatic extinguishing system is provided, the system shall be designed and installed in an approved manner. Openings to other rooms or buildings shall be provided with noncombustible liquid-tight raised sills or ramps at least 4 inches in height, or the floor in the storage area shall be at least 4 inches below the surrounding floor. Openings shall be provided with approved self-closing fire doors. The room shall be liquid-tight where the walls join the floor. A permissible alternate to the sill or ramp is an open-grated trench, inside of the room, which drains to a safe location. Where other portions of the building or other buildings are exposed, windows shall be protected as set forth in the Standard for Fire Doors and Windows, NFPA No. 80-1983, for Class E or F openings. Wood of at least 1-inch nominal thickness may be used for shelving, racks, dunnage, scuffboards, floor overlay and similar installations.
  - (iii) Materials which will react with water and create a fire hazard shall not be stored in the same room with flammable or combustible liquids.
  - (iv) Storage in inside storage rooms shall comply with Table D-2 following:

WAC 296-155-270 (Cont.)

| TABLE D-2                |                 |              |   |
|--------------------------|-----------------|--------------|---|
| Fire Protection Provided | Fire Assistance | Maximum Size | Total Allowable Quantities gals./sq. ft./floor Area |
| Yes                      | 2 hrs.          | 500 sq. ft.  | 10  |
| No                       | 2 hrs.          | 500 sq. ft.  | 4   |
| Yes                      | 1 hr.           | 150 sq. ft.  | 5   |
| No                       | 1 hr.           | 150 sq. ft.  | 2   |

Note: Fire protection system shall be sprinkler, water spray, carbon dioxide or other system approved by a nationally recognized testing laboratory for this purpose.

- (v) Electrical wiring and equipment located in inside storage rooms shall be approved for Class 1, Division 1, hazardous locations. For definition of Class 1, Division 1, hazardous locations, see WAC 296-155-456.
  - (vi) Every inside storage room shall be provided with either a gravity or a mechanical exhausting system. Such system shall commence not more than 12 inches above the floor and be designed to provide for a complete change of air within the room at least 6 times per hour. If a mechanical exhausting system is used, it shall be controlled by a switch located outside of the door. The ventilating equipment and any lighting fixtures shall be operated by the same switch. An electric pilot light shall be installed adjacent to the switch if flammable liquids are dispensed within the room. Where gravity ventilation is provided, the fresh air intake, as well as the exhausting outlet from the room, shall be on the exterior of the building in which the room is located.
  - (vii) In every inside storage room there shall be maintained one clear aisle at least 3 feet wide. Containers over 30 gallons capacity shall not be stacked one upon the other.
  - (viii) Flammable and combustible liquids in excess of that permitted in inside storage rooms shall be stored outside of buildings in accordance with subsection (3) of this section.
- (3) Storage outside buildings.
- (a) Storage of containers (not more than 60 gallons each) shall not exceed 1,100 gallons in any one pile or area. Piles or groups of containers shall be separated by a 5-foot clearance. Piles or groups of containers shall not be nearer than 20 feet to a building.
  - (b) Within 200 feet of each pile of containers, there shall be a 12-foot-wide access way to permit approach of fire control apparatus.
  - (c) The storage area shall be graded in a manner to divert possible spills away from buildings or other exposures, or shall be surrounded by a curb or earth dike at least 12 inches high. When curbs or dikes are used, provisions shall be made for draining off accumulations of ground or rain water, or spills of flammable or combustible liquids. Drains shall terminate at a safe location and shall be accessible to operation under fire conditions.

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**WAC 296-155-270 (Cont.)**

- (d) Outdoor portable tank storage.
    - (i) Portable tanks shall not be nearer than 20 feet from any building. Two or more portable tanks, grouped together, having a combined capacity in excess of 2,200 gallons, shall be separated by a 5-foot-clear area. Individual portable tanks exceeding 1,100 gallons shall be separated by a 5-foot-clear area.
    - (ii) Within 200 feet of each portable tank, there shall be a 12-foot-wide access way to permit approach of fire control apparatus.
  - (e) Storage areas shall be kept free of weeds, debris, and other combustible material not necessary to the storage.
  - (f) Portable tanks, not exceeding 660 gallons, shall be provided with emergency venting and other devices, as required by chapters III and IV of NFPA 30-1972, The Flammable and Combustible Liquids Code.
  - (g) Portable tanks, in excess of 660 gallons, shall have emergency venting and other devices, as required by chapters II and III of the Flammable and Combustible Liquids Code, NFPA 30-1972.
- (4) Fire control for flammable or combustible liquid storage.
- (a) At least one portable fire extinguisher, having a rating of not less than 20-B units, shall be located outside of, but not more than 10 feet from, the door opening into any room used for storage of more than 60 gallons of flammable or combustible liquids.
  - (b) At least one portable fire extinguisher having a rating of not less than 20-B units shall be located not less than 25 feet, nor more than 75 feet, from any flammable liquid storage area located outside.
  - (c) When sprinklers are provided, they shall be installed in accordance with the Standard for the Installation of Sprinkler Systems, NFPA 13-1972.
  - (d) At least one portable fire extinguisher having a rating of not less than 20-B:C units shall be provided on all tank trucks or other vehicles used for transporting and/or dispensing flammable or combustible liquids.
- Note: For additional requirements relating to portable fire extinguishers see WAC 296-800-300.*
- (5) Dispensing liquids.
- (a) Areas in which flammable or combustible liquids are transferred at the same time, in quantities greater than 5 gallons from one tank or container to another tank or container, shall be separated from other operations by 25-foot distance or by construction having a fire-resistance of at least 1 hour. Drainage or other means shall be provided to control spills. Adequate natural or mechanical ventilation shall be provided to maintain the concentration of flammable vapor at or below 10 percent of the lower flammable limit.
  - (b) Transfer flammable liquids from one container to another shall be done only when containers are electrically interconnected (bonded).

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**WAC 296-155-270 (Cont.)**

- (c) Flammable or combustible liquids shall be drawn from or transferred into vessels, containers, or tanks within a building or outside only through a closed piping system, from safety cans, by means of a device drawing through the top, or from a container, or portable tanks, by gravity or pump, through an approved self-closing valve. Transferring by means of air pressure on the container or portable tank is prohibited.
  - (d) The dispensing units shall be protected against collision damage.
  - (e) Dispensing devices and nozzles for flammable liquids shall be of an approved type, as required by WAC 296-24-33015.
- (6) Handling liquids at point of final use.
- (a) Flammable liquids shall be kept in closed containers when not actually in use.
  - (b) Leakage or spillage of flammable or combustible liquids shall be disposed of promptly and safely.
  - (c) Flammable liquids shall be used only where there are no open flames or other sources of ignition within 50 feet of the operation, unless conditions warrant greater clearance.
- (7) Service and refueling areas.
- (a) Flammable or combustible liquids shall be stored in approved closed containers, in tanks located underground, or in aboveground portable tanks.
  - (b) The tank trucks shall comply with the requirements covered in the Standard for Tank Vehicles for Flammable and Combustible Liquids, NFPA No. 385-1977.
  - (c) The dispensing hose shall be an approved type.
  - (d) The dispensing nozzle shall be an approved automatic-closing type.
  - (e) Underground tanks shall not be abandoned.
  - (f) Clearly identified and easily accessible switch(es) shall be provided at a location remote from dispensing devices to shut off the power to all dispensing devices in the event of an emergency.
  - (g)
    - (i) Heating equipment of an approved type may be installed in the lubrication or service area where there is no dispensing or transferring of flammable liquids, provided the bottom of the heating unit is at least 18 inches above the floor and is protected from physical damage.
    - (ii) Heating equipment installed in lubrication or service areas, where flammable liquids are dispensed, shall be of an approved type for garages, and shall be installed at least 8 feet above the floor.
  - (h) There shall be no smoking or open flames in the areas used for fueling, servicing fuel systems for internal combustion engines, receiving or dispensing of flammable or combustible liquids.
  - (i) Conspicuous and legible signs prohibiting smoking shall be posted.
  - (j) The motor of any equipment being fueled shall be shut off during the fueling operation.

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**WAC 296-155-270 (Cont.)**

- (k) Each service or fueling area shall be provided with at least one fire extinguisher having a rating of not less than 20BC located so that an extinguisher will be within 75 feet of each pump, dispenser, underground fill pipe opening, and lubrication or service area.

*Note: For additional requirements relating to portable fire extinguishers see WAC 296-800-300.*

[Statutory Authority: RCW 49.17.010, .040, .050. 99-17-094 (Order 99-01), § 296-155-270, filed 08/17/99, effective 12/01/99. Statutory Authority: Chapter 49.17 RCW. 88-23-054 (Order 88-25), § 296-155-270, filed 11/14/88. Statutory Authority: RCW 49.17.040 and 49.17.050. 86-03-074 (Order 86-14), § 296-155-270, filed 1/21/86; Order 74-26, § 296-155-270, filed 5/7/74, effective 6/6/74.]

**WAC 296-155-275 Liquefied petroleum gas (LP-gas).**

- (1) Approval of equipment and systems.
  - (a) Each system shall have containers, valves, connectors, manifold valve assemblies, and regulators of an approved type.
  - (b) All cylinders shall meet the department of transportation specification identification requirements published in 49 CFR Part 178, Shipping Container Specifications.
- (2) Welding on LP-gas containers. Welding is prohibited on containers.
- (3) Container valves and container accessories.
  - (a) Valves, fittings, and accessories connected directly to the container, including primary shut off valves, shall have a rated working pressure of at least 250 p.s.i.g. and shall be of material and design suitable for LP-gas service.
  - (b) Connections to containers, except safety relief connections, liquid level gauging devices, and plugged openings, shall have shutoff valves located as close to the container as practicable.
- (4) Safety devices.
  - (a) Every container and every vaporizer shall be provided with one or more approved safety relief valves or devices. These valves shall be arranged to afford free vent to the outer air with discharge not less than 5 feet horizontally away from any opening into a building which is below such discharge.
  - (b) Shutoff valves shall not be installed between the safety relief device and the container, or the equipment or piping to which the safety relief device is connected, except that a shutoff valve may be used where the arrangement of this valve is such that full required capacity flow through the safety relief device is always afforded.
  - (c) Container safety relief devices and regulator relief vents shall be located not less than 5 feet in any direction from air openings into sealed combustion system appliances or mechanical ventilation air intakes.
- (5) Dispensing.
  - (a) Filling of fuel containers for trucks or motor vehicles from bulk storage containers shall be performed not less than 10 feet from the nearest masonry-walled building, or not less than 25 feet from the nearest building or other construction and, in any event, not less than 25 feet from any building opening.

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**WAC 296-155-275 (Cont.)**

- (b) Filling of portable containers or containers mounted on skids from storage containers shall be performed not less than 50 feet from the nearest building.
- (6) Requirements for appliances.
  - (a) LP-gas consuming appliances shall be approved types.
  - (b) Any appliance that was originally manufactured for operation with a gaseous fuel other than LP-gas, and is in good condition, may be used with LP-gas only after it is properly converted, adapted, and tested for performance with LP-gas before the appliance is placed in use.
- (7) Containers and regulating equipment installed outside of buildings or structures. Containers shall be upright upon firm foundations or otherwise firmly secured. The possible effect on the outlet piping of settling shall be guarded against by a flexible connection or special fitting.
- (8) Containers and equipment used inside of buildings or structures.
  - (a) When operational requirements make portable use of containers necessary, and their location outside of buildings or structures is impractical, containers and equipment are permitted to be used inside of buildings or structures in accordance with (b) through (k) of this subsection. In addition, there may be provisions of this section that are applicable to the particular use or occupancy.
  - (b) **“Containers in use”** means connected for use.
  - (c) Systems utilizing containers having a water capacity greater than 2 1/2-pounds (nominal 1 pound LP-gas capacity) shall be equipped with excess flow valves. Such excess flow valves shall be either integral with the container valves or in the connections to the container valve outlets.
  - (d) Regulators, when required, shall be either directly connected to the container valves or to manifolds connected to the container valves. The regulator shall be suitable for use with LP-gas. Manifolds and fittings connecting containers to pressure regulator inlets shall be designed for at least 250 p.s.i.g. service pressure.
  - (e) Valves on containers having water capacity greater than 50 pounds (nominal 20 pounds LP-gas capacity) shall be protected from damage while in use or storage.
  - (f) Aluminum piping or tubing shall not be used.
  - (g) Hose shall be designed for a working pressure of at least 250 p.s.i.g. Design, construction, and performance of hose, and hose connections shall have their suitability determined by listing by a nationally recognized testing agency. The hose length shall be as short as practical. Hoses shall be long enough to permit compliance with spacing provisions of (a) through (m) of this subsection, without kinking or straining, or causing hose to be so close to a burner as to be damaged by heat.
  - (h) Portable heaters, including salamanders, shall be equipped with an approved automatic device to shut off the flow of gas to the mainburner, and pilot if used, in the event of flame failure. Such heaters, having inputs above 50,000 BTU per hour, shall be equipped with either a pilot, which must be lighted and proved before the main burner can be turned on, or an electrical ignition system.

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**WAC 296-155-275 (Cont.)**

*Note: The provisions of this subdivision do not apply to portable heaters under 7,500 BTU per hour input when used with containers having a maximum water capacity of 2 1/2 pounds.*

- (i) Container valves, connectors, regulators, manifolds, piping, and tubing shall not be used as structural supports for heaters.
  - (j) Containers, regulating equipment, manifolds, pipe, tubing, and hose shall be located to minimize exposure to high temperatures or physical damage.
  - (k) Containers having a water capacity greater than 2 1/2 pounds (nominal 1 pound LP-gas capacity) connected for use shall stand on a firm and substantially level surface and, when necessary, shall be secured in an upright position.
  - (l) The maximum water capacity of individual containers shall be 245 pounds (nominal 100 pounds LP-gas capacity).
  - (m) For temporary heating, heaters (other than integral heater-container units) shall be located at least 6 feet from any LP-gas container. This shall not prohibit the use of heaters specifically designed for attachment to the container or to a supporting standard, provided they are designed and installed so as to prevent direct or radiant heat application from the heater onto the containers. Blower and radiant type heaters shall not be directed toward any LP-gas container within 20 feet.
  - (n) If two or more heater-container units, of either the integral or nonintegral type, are located in an unpartitioned area on the same floor, the container or containers of each unit shall be separated from the container or containers of any other unit by at least 20 feet.
  - (o) When heaters are connected to containers for use in an unpartitioned area on the same floor, the total water capacity of containers, manifolded together for connection to a heater or heaters, shall not be greater than 735 pounds (nominal 300 pounds LP-gas capacity). Such manifolds shall be separated by at least 20 feet.
  - (p) Storage of containers awaiting use shall be in accordance with subsections (10) and (11) of this section.
- (9) Multiple container systems.
- (a) Valves in the assembly of multiple container systems shall be arranged so that replacement of containers can be made without shutting off the flow of gas in the system. This provision is not to be construed as requiring an automatic changeover device.
  - (b) Heaters shall be equipped with an approved regulator in the supply line between the fuel cylinder and the heater unit. Cylinder connectors shall be provided with an excess flow valve to minimize the flow of gas in the event the fuel line becomes ruptured.
  - (c) Regulators and low-pressure relief devices shall be rigidly attached to the cylinder valves, cylinders, supporting standards, the building walls, or otherwise rigidly secured, and shall be so installed or protected from the elements.
- (10) Storage of LPG containers. Storage of LPG within building is prohibited.
- (11) Storage outside of buildings.

**WAC 296-155-275 (Cont.)**

- (a) Storage outside of buildings, for containers awaiting use, shall be located from the nearest building or group of buildings, in accordance with Table D-3:

| TABLE D-3                 |                 |
|---------------------------|-----------------|
| Quantity of LP-gas stored | Distance (feet) |
| 500 lbs. Or less          | 0               |
| 501 to 6,000 lbs.         | 10              |
| 6,001, to 10,000 lbs.     | 20              |
| Over 10,000 lbs.          | 25              |

- (b) Containers shall be in a suitable ventilated enclosure or otherwise protected against tampering, or possible damage by vehicular traffic.
- (12) Fire protection. Storage locations shall be provided with at least one approved portable fire extinguisher having a rating of not less than 20-B:C.

*Note: For additional requirements relating to portable fire extinguishers see WAC 296-800-300.*

[Statutory Authority: RCW 49.17.040 and 49.17.050. 86-03-074 (Order 86-14), § 296-155-275, filed 1/21/86; Order 76-29, § 296-155-275, filed 9/30/76; Order 74-26, § 296-155-275, filed 5/7/74, effective 6/6/74.]

**WAC 296-155-280 Temporary heating devices.**

- (1) Ventilation.
  - (a) Fresh air shall be supplied in sufficient quantities to maintain the health and safety of workers. Where natural means of fresh air supply is inadequate, mechanical ventilation shall be provided.
  - (b) When heaters are used in confined spaces, special care shall be taken to provide sufficient ventilation in order to ensure proper combustion, maintain the health and safety of workers, and limit temperature rise in the area.
- (2) Clearance and mounting.
  - (a) Temporary heating devices shall be installed to provide clearance to combustible material not less than the amount shown in Table D-4.
  - (b) Temporary heating devices, which are listed for installation with lesser clearances than specified in Table D-4, may be installed in accordance with their approval.

| TABLE D-4                     |                            |      |                   |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------|------|-------------------|
| Heating appliances            | Minimum clearance (inches) |      |                   |
|                               | Sides                      | Rear | Chimney Connector |
| Rear heater, circulating type | 12                         | 12   | 18                |
| Room heater, radiant type     | 36                         | 36   | 18                |

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**WAC 296-155-280 (Cont.)**

- (c) Heaters not suitable for use on wood floors shall not be set directly upon them or other combustible materials. When such heaters are used, they shall rest on suitable heat insulating material or at least 1-inch concrete, or equivalent. The insulating material shall extend beyond the heater 2 feet or more in all directions.
  - (d) Heaters used in the vicinity of combustible tarpaulins, canvas, or similar coverings shall be located at least 10 feet from the coverings. The coverings shall be securely fastened to prevent ignition or upsetting of the heater due to wind action on the covering or other material.
- (3) **Stability.** Heaters, when in use, shall be set horizontally level, unless otherwise permitted by the manufacturer's markings.
- (4) **Oil-fired heaters.**
- (a) Flammable liquid-fired heaters shall be equipped with a primary safety control to stop the flow of fuel in the event of flame failure. Barometric or gravity oil feed shall not be considered a primary safety control.
  - (b) Heaters designed for barometric or gravity oil feed shall be used only with the integral tanks.
  - (c) Heaters specifically designed and approved for use with separate supply tanks may be directly connected for gravity feed, or an automatic pump, from a supply tank.
- (5) **Salamanders.**
- (a) **Coverage.** The use of solid fuel salamanders is prohibited in buildings and on scaffolds.
  - (b) **General requirements.**
    - (i) All solid fuel salamanders shall be designed and constructed for use with solid fuel, that is, coal or coke.
    - (ii) Solid fuel salamanders shall be equipped with a cover designed as part of the unit, to prevent spillage of burning material in case of tipover.
    - (iii) Salamanders shall be assembled in accordance with the instructions issued by the manufacturer.
    - (iv) The safeguards engineered into the product shall be maintained and any replacement shall be equivalent thereto.
    - (v) Salamanders shall be stored in such a manner as to prevent deterioration or damage to the unit.
  - (c) **Operation.**
    - (i) Manufacturers' instructions shall be followed by the user.
    - (ii) Each time a salamander is placed in operation it shall be checked to insure that it is functioning properly. Its operation shall be checked periodically thereafter.

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**WAC 296-155-280 (Cont.)**

- (iii) When concentrations of carbon monoxide attain quantities greater than 35 parts per million (0.0035 percent) to air volume at employee breathing levels, the salamander shall be extinguished unless additional natural or mechanical ventilation is provided to reduce the carbon monoxide content to permissible limits.
- (iv) Tests for presence of carbon monoxide shall be made by a qualified person within 1 hour after the start of each shift and at least every 3 hours thereafter. If concentrations of carbon monoxide reach 20 parts per million to air volume, tests shall be made more frequently to determine if there is a continuing increase of carbon monoxide concentration.
- (v) Records of all tests including the date, time, results obtained, and person making tests, shall be maintained for the duration of the project.
- (vi) No persons shall be permitted to be within the area being heated by the salamanders except under the following circumstances: When tending the salamanders; when testing the atmosphere; or in emergency situations.
- (vii) No employee shall be permitted to enter the heated area until notification is given to another person located outside. Periodic checks shall be made to ensure the health and safety of employees entering the heated area.
- (viii) When a salamander is being used, the responsibility for its operation and maintenance shall be assigned to a qualified employee.
- (ix) Salamanders shall not be moved, handled, or serviced while hot or burning, or while component parts are hot to the touch.
- (x) Salamanders, when in use, shall be set level with the horizontal unless otherwise permitted by the manufacturer's markings. Salamanders shall be designed so as not to tip over when placed on a surface inclined 25° to the horizontal.
- (xi) If equivalent protection and safety is afforded by alternative design, the 25° limitation may be reduced.
- (xii) Salamanders not suitable for use on wood floors shall not be set directly upon them or other combustible materials. When such salamanders are used they shall rest on suitable insulating material or at least 1-inch concrete or equivalent. The insulating material shall extend beyond the salamander 2 feet or more in all directions.
- (xiii) Salamanders used in the vicinity of tarpaulins, canvas, or similar coverings shall be located a safe distance from coverings and other combustible materials. The coverings shall be securely fastened to prevent ignition of the covering or upsetting of the salamanders due to wind action on the covering or other material.
- (xiv) Salamanders in use shall be protected to prevent flame extinguishment.

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**WAC 296-155-280 (Cont.)**

- (d) Ventilation.
  - (i) Fresh air shall be supplied in sufficient quantities to maintain the health and safety of employees. Where natural means for fresh air supply is inadequate, mechanical ventilation shall be provided. Particular attention shall be given to confined spaces and pockets where heat and fumes may accumulate and employees may be present (roof areas, peaks, basement).
  - (ii) When salamanders are used in confined spaces, special care shall be taken to provide sufficient ventilation in order to assure proper combustion, maintain the health and safety of employees, and limit temperature rise in the area.
- (e) Fueling.
  - (i) Salamanders shall be refueled only by a person trained in such operations.
  - (ii) Only a 1 day's supply of heater fuel shall be stored inside a building in the vicinity of the salamander. General fuel storage shall be outside the structure.
  - (iii) All fuel storage shall be maintained a minimum of 25 feet from source of ignition.
- (f) Maintenance.
  - (i) The user shall comply with the maintenance instructions as provided by the manufacturer.
  - (ii) Equipment showing evidence of deterioration or damage that constitutes a safety or health hazard shall be removed from service.
  - (iii) Salamander repairs shall be performed in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations, and replacement parts shall be equal to, the equivalent of, or the same as the original salamander equipment.

[Statutory Authority: Chapter 49.17 RCW. 94-15-096 (Order 94-07), § 296-155-280, filed 7/20/94, effective 9/20/94; Order 76-29, § 296-155-280, filed 9/30/76; Order 74-26, § 296-155-280, filed 5/7/74, effective 6/6/74.]